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MONTGOMERY CRACK DEALER SENTENCED TO 87 MONTHS IN PRISON

Middle District of Alabama

Montgomery, *Alabama* – Demond Dechun Washington, 34, a resident of Montgomery, Ala., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Mark E. Fuller to 87 months in prison for crack cocaine charges, U.S. Attorney George L. Beck, Jr. announced today. Washington will also serve a four-year term of supervised release after his release from prison, and was ordered to forfeit almost \$10,000 to the United States.

Washington was indicted by a federal grand jury for possessing and distributing crack cocaine. Washington sold approximately one-half of an ounce of crack cocaine to a confidential informant on three occasions during November and December 2010. At the time of Washington's arrest in December 2010, law enforcement searched Washington's residence located in the Ridgecrest neighborhood in Montgomery. Officers found over four ounces of crack cocaine, a loaded .40 caliber Smith & Wesson handgun, and \$9,706 in U.S. currency. Washington pleaded guilty on June 27, 2011.

"Drugs destroy communities. When drugs are combined with guns, it is often a lethal and violent combination that threatens the safety of the people of this district. Our office will continue to vigorously prosecute those criminals who endanger our citizens by using guns and selling drugs," said U.S. Attorney George L. Beck.

This case was investigated through the joint efforts of the Montgomery Police

Department and the Montgomery Resident Office of the U.S. Department of Justice, Drug

Enforcement Administration. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U. S. Attorney Gray M.

Borden.